BX
5875
.H82

THREE STEPPING-STONES

QUESTION-BOOK FOR THE YOUNGER CLASSES IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS

BY THE

REV. WILLIAM R. HUNTINGTON D. D.

AUTHOR OF "QUESTIONS ON BOTH TESTAMENTS" "THE CHURCH PORCH"

"And chiefly ye shall provide that he may learn the CREED the LORD'S PRAYER and the TEN COMMANDMENTS"

Address to Sponsors in the Baptismal Office

NEW YORK

E. P. DUTTON AND COMPANY

Church Publishers

1877

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Chap. ..... Copyright No. .....

Shelf BX5875 .H82

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THREE STEPPING-STONES

A QUESTION-BOOK FOR THE YOUNGER CLASSES IN SUNDAY SCHOOLS

BY THE

REV. WILLIAM R. HUNTINGTON D. D.

AUTHOR OF "QUESTIONS ON BOTH TESTAMENTS" "THE CHURCH PORCH"

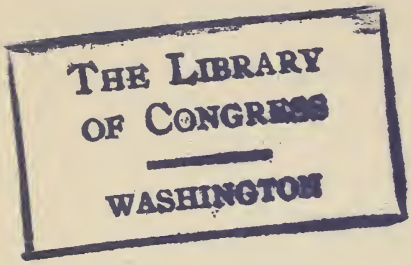
"And chiefly ye shall provide that he may learn the CREED the LORD'S PRAYER and the TEN COMMANDMENTS"

Address to Sponsors in the Baptismal Office

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
COPYRIGHT
No. 12282 G2
1878
CITY of WASH

NEW YORK
E. P. DUTTON AND COMPANY
Church Publishers
1877

BX5895
.H82



Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1876.
BY E. P. DUTTON & CO.,
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

THE CLAREMONT MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
STEREOTYPERS, PRINTERS AND BINDERS,
CLAREMONT, N. H.

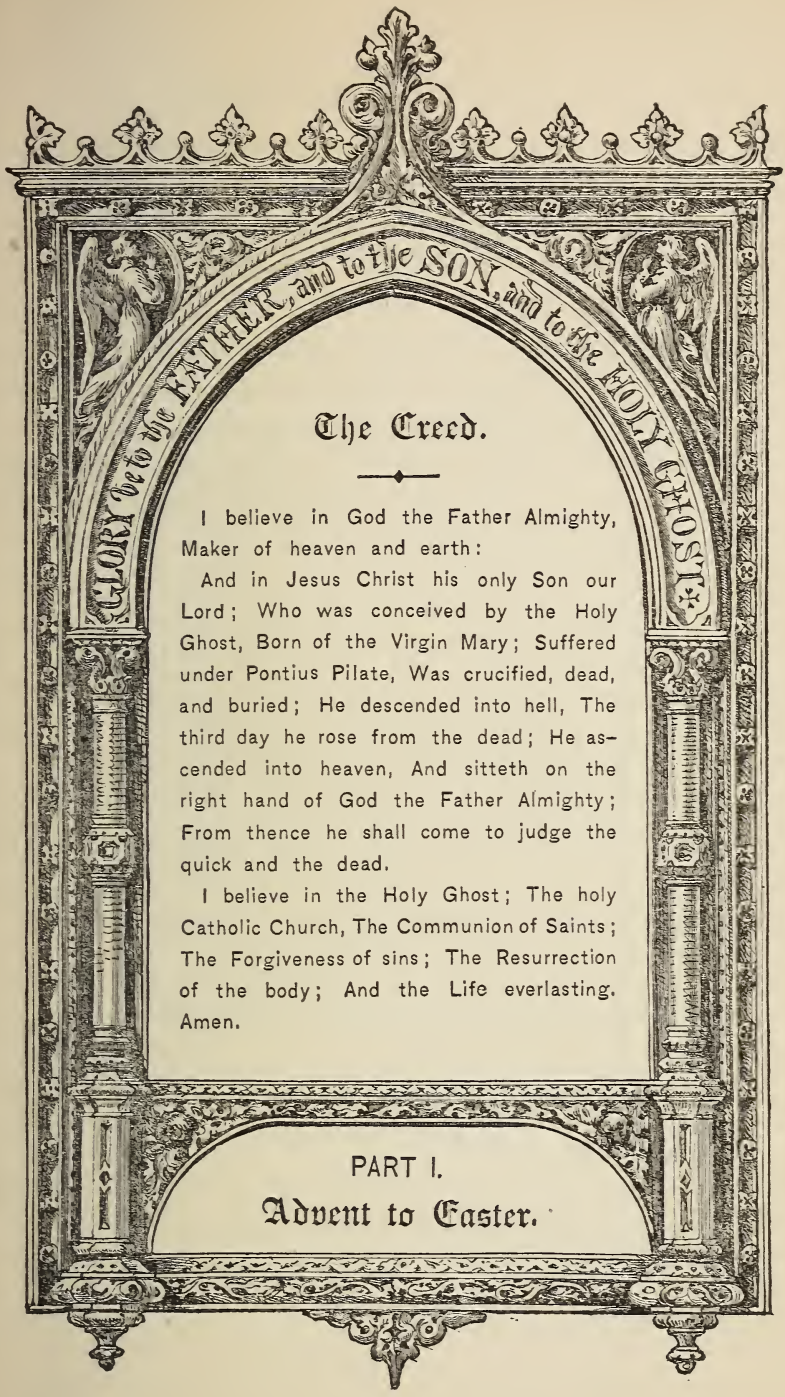
PREFACE.

This book is intended for children whose ages range from eight to twelve, or thereabouts. It has been prepared mainly with a view to the needs of Sunday Schools; but not without the hope that it may also prove useful as an aid to parents and older brothers and sisters in the less formal instructions of home.

The pupil should be required to learn by heart the special text assigned to each Sunday, but may very properly be allowed to give the answers to the questions, (or such of them, at least, as are not direct quotations from Scripture) in his own words.

Most, though not all, of the snatches of sacred verse attached to the lessons have been gathered from the published hymns of Mrs. C. F. Alexander, a writer whose genius has laid the children of our time under an obligation they ought never to forget. It may be well to have these verses carefully committed to memory, in addition to the Bible texts.

As to the general character of the teaching of the book the author can only say that he has sought to make it simple and reverent; and yet while writing for children, he has not forgotton that the little people are destined to be, by and by, grown-up men and women, and has aimed so to put the questions, and so to answer them, that these same men and women may not look back, ten or twenty years hence, to say that innocence was imposed upon, and the unreasoning mind put off with ill-reasoned reasons.



The Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell, The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church, The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. Amen.

PART I.

Advent to Easter.

LESSON I.

First Sunday in Advent.

"I BELIEVE."

Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.—Mark ix: 23, 24.

1. What is the meaning of the word "Creed"?

Ans. A belief.

2. What is belief?

Ans. Trust in what is told us.

3. Do we believe everything that is told us?

Ans. Yes, unless we have reason to think that the person who tells us is lying or is mistaken.

4. Why do you believe that there is such a country as China?

Ans. Because I have been told so by those whom I trust.

5. But if any one were to tell you that two and two make five, should you believe that?

Ans. No, because of my own self I should know that to be untrue.

6. What is another name for this willingness to believe what is told us?

Ans. Faith.

7. What is the Creed sometimes called?

Ans. The Faith.

8. Who first told people most of the things in the Creed?

Ans. The Apostles.

9. And who were the Apostles?

Ans. They were the men Jesus Christ sent out to teach the world.

10. Why do we believe that these Apostles told the truth?

Ans. Because they were good men, and willing to die for what they said.

11. That is one reason, what other reason can you give?

Ans. We can see that the world is very much better for having believed what the Apostles said.

12. Why is the Creed sometimes called The Apostles' Creed?

Ans. Because it contains what the Apostles taught.

Brave saints and true the faith they kept,
Then, dying, bade us still
The faith hold fast, while time should last,
And so, please God, we will.

LESSON II.

Second Sunday in Advent.

"I BELIEVE IN GOD."

The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe. Prov. xxix: 25.

1. Who are the two persons named in this sentence, "I believe in God?"

Ans. God and I myself.

2. What do you say that you do?

Ans. I say that I believe in God.

3. What do you mean by this?

Ans. I mean that I put my trust in God.

4. Why do the passengers in a ship on the ocean feel sure that they shall safely enter the harbor to which they are bound?

Ans. Because they put trust in the pilot.

5. Who is the pilot?

Ans. The man who directs the steering of the ship.

6. Why are soldiers in battle willing to march against the enemy in the face of bayonets or cannon?

Ans. Because they put trust in their leader.

7. Why will a child walk through a dark place in the woods without fear, if his father is holding him by the hand?

Ans. Because he puts trust in his father.

8. Why need a Christian have no fear of shipwreck in the voyage of life?

Ans. Because God is the Pilot.

9. Why need a Christian have no fear of defeat in the battle of life?

Ans. Because God is the Leader.

10. Why need a Christian have no fear of being lost in the dark places of life?

Ans. Because God is the Father.

11. What does the Church catechism say is the first point in our duty towards God?

Ans. "To believe in Him."

12. And why ought we to believe in Him?

Ans. Because He has been so good to us.

The heart that trusts forever sings,
And feels as light as it had wings;
A well of peace within it springs;
  Come good or ill,
What e'er to day, to-morrow brings,
  It is His will!

LESSON III.

Third Sunday in Advent.

"I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY."

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. Eph. iii: 14,15.

1. With what two words does the Lord's Prayer begin?

Ans. "Our Father."

2. Do we begin the Creed with saying "I believe in God *our* Father Almighty?

Ans. No; we say God *the* Father Almighty.

3. Why do we make this difference in saying the Creed?

Ans. Because we believe that God is the Father of others besides ourselves.

4. Of whom is God the Father?

Ans. Of all who can feel towards Him as children ought to feel.

5. Is God the Father of mountains, and rivers and stars?

Ans. No.

6. Why not?

Ans. Because mountains and rivers and stars cannot love Him.

7. Of whom has God been for ever the Father?

Ans. Of his Son Jesus Christ.

8. How do we know this?

Ans. Because Christ speaks of the glory which he had with the Father before the world was.

9. Of whom else is God the Father?

Ans. Of the whole family in heaven and earth.

10. Who are members of this family in heaven and earth?

Ans. We ourselves, and all others who can love God.

11. In what important point does the Heavenly Father differ from earthly fathers?

Ans. He is the Almighty Father.

12. What is the meaning of Almighty?

Ans. Able to do everything.

My Father, let me love Thee;
  My Father, make me good;
My Father, give me strength of heart
  To do the thing I would.
My child, full well I know thee.
  How weak, how frail thou art.
My child, full well I love thee,
  Fear not, I hold thy heart.

LESSON IV.

Fourth Sunday in Advent.

"I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH."

For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. Heb. iii: 4.

1. Whereabouts in the Bible do we read of God's making the heaven and earth?

Ans. In the first chapter.

2. When are we there told that he made them?

Ans. "In the Beginning."

3. Did he make the earth just as we see it now?

Ans. No, the earth was without form and void.

4. What do these words mean?

Ans. They mean that the earth was rough and empty.

5. Empty of what?

Ans. Empty of living things.

6. But the world now is full of living things, does the Bible say that these were all put here suddenly?

Ans. No.

7. How then?

Ans. Gradually.

8. How may we learn still more than the Bible tells us about the works of God the Maker?

Ans. By using our eyes and our minds.

9. Why did God give us eyes and minds?

Ans. That we might use them to His glory.

10. Before the world was made did God live?

Ans. Yes, *from* everlasting He is God.

11. If the world should come to an end would He live still?

Ans. Yes, *to* everlasting He is God.

12. Why need we never fear to learn all that can be known of God the Maker?

Ans. Because we believe that He is also God the Father.

Maker of the starry sky,
Canst Thou hear the children's cry?
Yes, the softest gentlest word
By that listening ear is heard.
Not in vain the raven calls,
Not unmarked the sparrow falls;
Surely, then, a child may be
Bold, O Lord, to come to Thee.

LESSON V.

Sunday after Christmas.

"AND IN JESUS CHRIST HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD."

She saith unto Him, Yea, Lord; I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world. John xi: 27.

1. What is the meaning of the name Jesus?

Ans. A Saviour or Deliverer.

2. Of whom is Jesus the Saviour?

Ans. He is the Saviour of us all.

3. What is the meaning of the name Christ?

Ans. The Anointed One.

4. And what do you mean by the Anointed One?

Ans. In old times, prophets and kings were anointed with oil when they entered upon their office.

5. Who anointed Jesus to be our Prophet and King?

Ans. His Father, God.

6. With what was He anointed?

Ans. With the Holy Spirit.

7. In what beautiful words does He Himself tell us this?

Ans. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

8. Most of the names in the Bible are single names; of what is this double name "Jesus Christ" a sign?

Ans. A sign of His double nature.

9. What do you mean by His double nature?

Ans. He is both God and man.

10. If we are all of us God's children, why is Jesus Christ called His Only Son?

Ans. Because he alone has been God's Son from all eternity.

11. In what sense are we the sons of God?

Ans. God has adopted us to be His children.

12. In whose name and for whose sake has He adopted us?

Ans. In the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord.

"Hail! the heavenly Prince of Peace!
Hail! the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die."

LESSON VI.

Second Sunday after Christmas.

"WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST."

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. Lu. i: 35.

1. Had Jesus an earthly father as we have?

Ans. No; His only Father was God.

2. Had He an earthly mother?

Aus. Yes; He was the son of Mary.

3. What did the angel say when he announced to Mary that Jesus should be her child?

Ans. He said, "Hail thou that art highly favored. The Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women."

4. Did Jesus Himself know whence he had come?

Ans. Yes; He said to the Jews, "I know whence I came."

5. And whence had he really come?

Ans. He said, "I came down from heaven."

6. What is the meaning of the name Holy Ghost?

Ans. Holy Spirit.

7. And what used, in old times, to be the meaning of the word "spirit"?

Ans. Breath.

8. What then may we understand by the Holy Spirit?

Ans. The Holy Breath.

9. Whose Holy Breath?

Ans. God's Holy Breath.

10. What is said in the Book of Psalms about the making of the heaven and the earth?

Ans. "By the WORD OF THE LORD were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the BREATH OF HIS MOUTH."

11. What is said in the Book of Genesis about the making of man?

Ans. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life."

12. What now, does the Creed say of Jesus Christ?

Ans. It says that He was conceived by this same Holy Breath of God.

For us the King of Kings came down,
For us He laid His glory by,
That we might wear an angel's crown,
And live the life that cannot die.

LESSON VII.

First Sunday after the Epiphany.

"AND IN JESUS CHRIST HIS ONLY SON OUR LORD, WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST, BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for him in the inn. Luke ii: 7.

1. Where was Jesus born?

Ans. In Bethlehem of Judea.

2. Where was He laid when He was born?

Ans. In a manger.

3. Why did God choose that His Son should come into the world so humbly?

Ans. He sent Him to be the Saviour of the poor and lowly.

4. Who were the first persons to be told of Jesus' birth?

Ans. Shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night.

5. Who appeared to them?

Ans. The angel of the Lord.

6. What did He say to them?

Ans. "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people."

7. What sign did He give them to help them find the child?

Ans. He told them they would find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

8. What happened then?

Ans. A multitude of the heavenly host joined the angels and sang.

9. What did they sing?

Ans. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

10. What did the shepherds do after the angels had left them?

Ans. They went to Bethlehem and found the babe Jesus.

11. Did the shepherds keep what they had heard and seen to themselves?

Ans. No; they made it known abroad.

12. But what is said of Mary?

Ans. "Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

When bending from His native sky,
The Lord of life in mercy came,
And laid His bright effulgence by,
To bear on earth a human name;

The song, by cherub voices raised,
Rolled through the dark blue depths above;
And Israel's shepherds heard amazed
The seraph notes of peace and love.

LESSON VIII.

Second Sunday after the Epiphany.

"BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. Matt. ii : 10.

1. At the time Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, who was king of that country?

Ans. Herod.

2. Where did he live?

Ans. In Jerusalem, the capital city of Judea.

3. Who came to Jerusalem about that time?

Ans. Wise men from the East.

4. What question did they ask upon their arrival?

Ans. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?"

5. What reason did they give for wanting to know?

Ans. "We have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."

6. King Herod was troubled when he heard of their saying this, and why?

Ans. Because he was afraid the new king would take his throne away from him.

7. What, therefore, did he decide to do?

Ans. To find some means of destroying the new-born king.

8. How did he find out the name of the place, where it had been expected that Christ would be born?

Ans. The chief priests told him.

9. What did Herod then do?

Ans. He told the wise men to go to Bethlehem, and if they found the child to bring him word.

10. When the wise men, guided by the star, had reached Bethlehem and found the child Jesus, what gifts did they offer Him?

Ans. Gold and frankincense and myrrh.

11. What did Herod do when he found that the wise men did not return.

Ans. He commanded that all the children in Bethlehem of two years old and under should be killed.

12. How did the child Jesus escape?

Ans. Joseph and Mary, warned by God in a dream, carried Him into Egypt.

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding-star behold;
As with joy they hail'd its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

LESSON IX.

Third Sunday after Epiphany.

"BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him. Luke ii : 40.

1. In what town was the childhood of Jesus passed?

Ans. In Nazareth of Galilee.

2. How often were His parents accustomed to go up to Jerusalem?

Ans. Once in the year, at the Feast of the Passover.

3. What was the feast of the Passover?

Ans. A feast the Jews kept in memory of their delivery from Egypt.

4. How old was Jesus when He was allowed to go to the feast for the first time?

Ans. Twelve years old.

5. In what way did the people who lived at a great distance go up to Jerusalem?

Ans. They went in large companies, for fear of robbers.

6. After the Passover, when Joseph and Mary were on their way back to Nazareth, what happened?

Ans. They missed the child Jesus.

7. What did they do then?

Ans. They returned to Jerusalem to search for Him.

8. Where did they find Him at last?

Ans. "They found Him in the Temple, in the midst of the doctors."

9. Who were these "doctors"?

Ans. Learned men who taught the people about God and the Scriptures.

10. Why was it that He, an untaught boy, was able to astonish these learned men by His wisdom?

Ans. Because God was with Him.

11. When His mother asked Him why He had given them so much anxiety, what did He say?

Ans. "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

12 What else is told us of the childhood of Jesus?

Ans. That He was "subject to his parents;" and that He "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

Oh! shame on any Christian child,
Who does not love the House of Prayer;
Who goes with cold, unwilling heart,
To serve his Father there.

LESSON X.

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

"BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. Heb. ii: 18.

1. When Jesus had grown to be a man, how was He solemnly consecrated to His work?

Ans. He was baptized.

2. Where was He baptized?

Ans. In the river Jordan.

3. By whom was He baptized?

Ans. By John the Baptist.

4. Who was John the Baptist?

Ans. He was the son of Elizabeth, the cousin of the Virgin Mary.

5. For what purpose was John the Baptist sent by God?

Ans. To make the way ready for Jesus and His Gospel.

6. How did he do this?

Ans. He warned the people to repent.

7 When Jesus was baptized, what wonderful thing happened?

Ans. "The heaven was opened, and the

Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him."

8. And what did the voice from heaven say?

Ans. "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

9 After the Baptism, what became of Jesus?

Ans. He went into the wilderness.

10. What happened to Him there?

Ans. For forty days He was tempted of the devil.

11. Did the tempter succeed in persuading Him to do wrong?

Ans. No; He "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

12. How was Jesus cheered after the temptaion was over?

Ans. Angels came and ministered unto Him.

Shepherd of Israel, from above,
Thy feeble flock behold;
And let us never lose Thy love,
Nor wander from thy fold.

Guide us through life; and when, at last,
We enter into rest,
Thy tender arms around us cast,
And fold us to Thy breast.

LESSON XI.

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

"BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Matt. xvi : 24.

1. After the Baptism and the Temptation were over, what did Jesus begin?

Ans. His ministry.

2. What does "ministry" mean?

Ans. Service.

3. Whom did Jesus serve?

Ans. Those who needed help in body or soul.

4. What did He do for the sick?

Ans. He healed them.

5. What did He do for the ignorant?

Ans. He taught them.

6. What did He do for the sorrowful?

Ans. He comforted them.

7. Who went about with Him in His journeys?

Ans. His disciples.

8. What is the meaning of "disciple"?

Ans. A learner.

9. How many disciples did Jesus call to follow Him?

Ans. Twelve.

10. Which of the disciples did He name the Rock?

Ans. St. Peter.

11. Which of the disciples did He love best?

Ans. St. John.

12. Which of the disciples betrayed Him?

Ans. Judas.

Blesséd are the pure in heart,
They have loved the better part;
When life's journey they have trod,
They shall go to be with God.

In the watches of the night,
When the stars are clear and bright,
"Thus the just shall shine," they say,
"In the Resurrection-day."

God in everything they see;
First in all their thoughts is He;
They have loved the better part,
Blesséd are the pure in heart.

LESSON XII.

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany.

"BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY."

And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch, if it were but the border of his garment; and as many as touched him were made whole. Mark vi: 56.

1. What were Christ's miracles?

Ans. His wonderful works.

2. Why was he able to do them?

Ans. Because the power of God was with Him.

3. Which was the first of His miracles?

Ans. Turning water into wine at the marriage feast of Cana in Galilee.

4. Of what sort were most of his miracles?

Ans. They were miracles of healing.

5. Which was the greatest of his miracles?

Ans. The raising of Lazarus from the dead.

6. What were Christ's parables?

Ans. Short stories in which He taught the people the things of God.

7. What are the names of some of the parables?

Ans. "The lost Sheep:" "The unmerciful Servant:" "The Ten Virgins:" The Wheat and the Tares."

8. Where did Jesus teach?

Ans. In all sorts of places, by the sea-shore, on the mountain side, in the temple.

9. In which part of the Bible do we read about Christ's words and works?

Ans. In the four Gospels.

10. And where are the four Gospels?

Ans. At the beginning of the New Testament.

11. What are the writers of the four Gospels called?

Ans. The four evangelists.

12. Which two of the evangelists were also among the twelve disciples?

Ans. St. Matthew and St. John.

In the Lord put I my trust;
He is gentle, He is just;
He my strength is, He my song,
And my crown shall be ere long.

He may chasten and correct,
But He never can neglect;
May in faithfulness reprove,
But He ne'er can cease to love.

LESSON XIII.

Septuagesima Sunday.

"He suffered under Pontius Pilate."

And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified. Mark xv: 15.

1. Who was Pontius Pilate?

Ans. The Roman Governor at Jerusalem.

2. How did it happen that the Romans were ruling the Jews?

Ans. They had conquered them in war.

3. Who were seeking to put Jesus to death at this time?

Ans. The chief men among the Jews.

4. What were the bad motives that promted them to this?

Ans. Envy, hatred and malice.

5. Where did Judas, the wicked disciple, betray Jesus?

Ans. In the garden of Gethsemane.

6. What did Jesus endure in the garden of Gethsemane?

Ans. His agony.

7. How is this described in the Gospels?

Ans. "And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was, as it were, great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

8. What was His prayer?

Ans. "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Nevertheless not as I will but as thou wilt."

9. What did He mean by "this cup?"

Ans. The cup of suffering He was about to taste.

10. To whom did his enemies lead away Christ after they had taken Him?

Ans. To the High Priest first.

11. And then to whom?

Ans. To Pontius Pilate.

12. Why did they take him before Pilate?

Ans. Because they wished him put to death, and only the Roman Governor could condemn to death.

We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains He had to bear,
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to heaven,
Saved by His precious blood.

LESSON XIV.

Sexagesima Sunday.

"WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD AND BURIED."

And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

And the superscription of his accusation was written over, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left. Mark xv: 25, 26, 27.

1. Where was Jesus crucified?

Ans. At a place near Jerusalem, called Calvary.

2. What was his prayer upon the cross for those who were crucifying Him?

Ans. "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

3. What were His last words as He was dying?

Ans. "Father into thy hands I commend my spirit."

4. Did Jesus know beforehand that He was to be put to death upon the cross?

Ans. Yes, He foretold His sufferings to His disciples.

5. Why was He willing to die?

Ans. Because it was His Father's will.

6. What does St. Paul say about the death of Christ?

Ans. He says that Christ died for our sins.

7. What does he mean by this?

Ans. That He died to take away our sins.

8. How does He take away our sins?

Ans. God forgives us for Christ's sake.

9. In what other sense does Christ take away our sins?

Ans. His love for us makes us love Him, and when we love Him, we try to be without sin as He was.

10. What other blessing do we recieve from the sufferings of Christ?

Ans. They teach us patience.

11. In what words does St. Peter tell us this?

Ans. "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example."

12. Where was the body of Jesus laid after it had been taken down from the cross?

Ans. In a new tomb in the garden of Joseph of Arimathea.

Yes, Thy blood is all my plea,
It was shed, and shed for me,
Therefore to Thy cross I flee.
At thy feet in dust and shame
I dare breathe Thy Holy Name,
And a great salvation claim.

LESSON XV.

Quinquagesima Sunday.

"He descended into hell."

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Ps. xxiii: 4.

1. What is the usual meaning of the word "hell" in the Bible?

Ans. It usually means the place of punishment.

2. What other meaning does the word sometimes have?

Ans. Sometimes it means simply the unseen world.

3. In which of the two senses is the word used in the Creed?

Ans. In the last.

4. When we say that Christ "descended into hell" what do we mean?

Ans. We mean that at His death His soul was separated from His body until His resurrection.

5. In speaking to the penitent thief on the cross, what did He call the place they were both about to enter?

Ans. Paradise.

6. What were His words?

Ans. "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

7. What do we mean by Paradise?

Ans. A place of happiness.

8. What does St Paul say about departing from this life and being with Christ in another life?

Ans. He says that it is far better.

9. How ought we, then, to think of those who have died the death of the righteous?

Ans. We ought to think of them as at rest and in peace.

10. Why do we believe that there is a space between death and resurrection?

Ans. Because it was so with Christ.

11. How long did His sacred body remain in Joseph's tomb?

Ans. For two nights and one day.

12. What comfort may we gather from this article of the Creed?

Ans. We are encouraged not to be afraid of death.

Lord, who for us so cold and deep
Down in that garden grave hast lain,
When we like Thee must fall asleep,
Be with us in our hour of pain,
That strengthened by Thy grace divine,
Alive or dead we may be Thine.

LESSON XVI.

First Sunday in Lent.

"THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD."

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. Col. iii : 1, 2.

1. On which day of the week did Jesus rise from the dead?

Ans. On the first day of the week.

2. What then do we mean when we say that on "the third day" He rose?

Ans. We mean the third day counting the day of the crucifixion the first day.

3. What had the Jews done to prevent the disciples from taking away the body of Jesus?

Ans. They had sealed the stone at the door of the sepulcre, and had set a guard of soldiers there.

4. What happened in the early morning of the first day of the week?

Ans. The angel of the Lord came down and rolled away the stone from the door of the sepulcre.

5. Was the stone rolled away in order that Jesus might come forth?

Ans. No, He was already risen.

6. Why then was the stone rolled away?

Ans. In order to show that the sepulchre was empty.

7. To whom did Jesus first appear after His resurrection?

Ans. To Mary Magdalen.

8. To whom else shortly afterward?

Ans. To the women returning from the sepulchre and to Simon Peter.

9. To whom else in the afternoon of the same day?

Ans. To two of the disciples as they were walking into the country.

10. To whom in the evening?

Ans. To the eleven disciples as they sat at meat.

11. What were His words when he appeared among them?

Ans. "Peace be unto you."

12. What was the feeling of the disciples?

Ans. "Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord."

In vain with stone the cave they barred,
In vain the watch kept ward and guard;
Majestic from the spoiléd tomb,
In pomp of triumph Christ is come.

LESSON XVII.

Second Sunday in Lent.

"He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty."

So then, after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. Mark xvi: 19.

1. How long was Jesus on the earth after His resurrection?

Ans. For forty days.

2. About what things did He teach His disciples during these forty days?

Ans. "The things pertaining to the kingdom of God."

3. What command did He lay on them?

Ans. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

4. What other command had He already given, shortly before His death?

Ans. He had taken bread and wine, and had blessed them and given them to the disciples and said, "This do in remembrance of Me."

5. Where was Jesus last seen by His disciples?

Ans. At Bethany on the Mount of Olives.

6. What was His last act?

Ans. "He lifted up his hands, and blessed them."

7. What happened then?

Ans. "He was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."

8. How long did they gaze on Him?

Ans. Until a cloud received Him out of their sight.

9. The Creed says that the ascended Christ is sitting "at the right hand" of the Father, what does this mean?

Ans. That the highest honor is given to Him.

10. What is the place of honor in the court of an earthly king?

Ans. At the right hand of the throne.

11. What comfort is there for those who believe in Christ in thinking that He is at the right hand of God.?

Ans. It is like having a brother there.

12. How does He help His brethren, there at the throne?

Ans. It is written, "He ever liveth to make intercession for them."

LESSON XVIII.

Third Sunday in Lent.

"FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE QUICK AND THE DEAD."

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father, with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works. Matt. xvi: 27.

1. Why do we believe that Jesus Christ will come again?

Ans. Because He promised to do so, and He will not break His promise.

2. What will be the purpose of His coming?

Ans. To judge the world.

3. What is the duty of a judge?

Ans. To see that justice is done.

4. Who only can do perfect justice to all men everywhere?

Ans. The Judge of all the earth.

5. Who is the Judge of all the earth?

Ans. God our Maker.

6. By whom will God our Maker do His judgment on the earth?

Ans. By His son Jesus Christ our Lord.

7. And why by Him?

Ans. "Because He is the Son of man.

8. What is the meaning of this word "quick" in the Creed?

Ans. It means those who shall be living when Christ comes.

9. Does any one know just when Christ will come again?

Ans. "Of that day and that hour knoweth no man."

10. How then ought we to live?

Ans. As if we might be called to meet our Judge any day.

11. If we were living selfish, mean, greedy and quarrelsome lives, should we enjoy having Him come suddenly upon us?

Ans. No, we should be very much ashamed.

12. How ought we to pray that we may be found of Him when He comes?

Ans. That we "may be found of Him in peace, without spot and blameless."

Slowly the morning steals
Upon our weary road,
Why stay the chariot wheels
Of our expected God?
Oh, when shall we
Thy glory see,
And, Saviour, ever rest in Thee?

LESSON XIX.

Fourth Sunday in Lent.

"I Believe in the Holy Ghost."

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. John xvi: 7.

1. Into what name are Christian people baptized?

Ans. Into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

2. We have already said in the Creed that we believe in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ His only Son, what do we say now?

Ans. That we believe in the Holy Ghost.

3. Why do we believe in the Holy Ghost as well as in the Father and the Son?

Ans. Because Christ told us to believe in Him.

4. What were His words?

Ans. "When He the spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth."

5. When was Christ's promise to send this spirit of truth, the Comforter, fulfilled?

Ans. On the day of Pentecost.

6. How was the presence of the Holy Ghost made known on that day?

Ans. By a "sound as of a mighty rushing wind" and by "cloven tongues as of fire."

7. Why is the wind a fitting sign or emblem of the Holy Ghost?

Ans. Because it works without being seen.

8. Why is fire a fitting emblem of the Holy Ghost?

Ans. Because it enlightens and warms the body, as the Holy Ghost enlightens and warms the soul.

9. What other emblems of the Holy Ghost are given us in the Bible?

Ans. The dove, the dew, and the fountain.

10. For what do these stand?

Ans. The dove for purity, the dew for gentleness, the fountain for refreshing.

11. What happy belief have Christians a right to hold about the Holy Ghost?

Ans. That He dwelleth in them.

12. And what ought to be their greatest care?

Ans. Not to grieve Him away.

There is a Holy Dove that sings
To every Christian child,
That whispers to his little heart
In music sweet and mild.

LESSON XX.

Fifth Sunday in Lent.

"The Holy Catholic Church: the Communion of Saints."

For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office;
So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Rom. xii: 4, 5.

1. What is the Church?

Ans. It is the household of God.

2. Why do we call this household "Holy"?

Ans. Because those who live in it seek to be pure in heart.

3. Why do we call this household "Catholic"?

Ans. Because it is meant for the whole family of men.

4. To what else, beside a household, is the Church likened in the Bible?

Ans. To a sheepfold, of which Christ is the Good Shepherd.

5. To what else?

Ans. To the human body.

6. Why is the Church likened to the human body?

Ans. Because it has many members and one head.

7. Who is the Head of the Church?

Ans. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

8. Who are the members of the Church?

Ans. Those who believe that Jesus is the Christ, and who have been baptized.

9. What makes all the members one body?

Ans. Their union with the Head.

10. Can children be members of the Holy Catholic Church?

Ans. Yes, because Jesus said "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not."

11. What do we mean by the "Communion of Saints"?

Ans. We mean the fellowship which all who love our Lord Jesus Christ enjoy.

12. Does it separate Christians from this fellowship to die?

Ans. No, it is one Communion in heaven and on earth.

Since we are all made one in Him,
How gentle should we prove!
How peaceful in our ways and words,
How tender in our love!
So shall our Head, at all times near,
Dwell in His members blest,
So lead us in His Church on earth
Safe to His Church at rest.

LESSON XXI.

Sunday next before Easter.

"THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS."

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Eph. iv : 32.

1. When do we sin?

Ans. Whenever we do wrong.

2. How do we know when we have done wrong?

Ans. Conscience tells us.

3. What is conscience?

Ans. The voice of God.

4. When the voice of God has told us that we have sinned, what ought we to do?

Ans. We ought to ask His forgiveness.

5. And if our sin has injured anybody else what ought we to do?

Ans. We ought to ask also the forgiveness of the person we have injured.

6. And what else?

Ans. As far as we can, we ought to make amends.

7. When we are sorry for our sins and have confessed them, what is God willing to do?

Ans. To forgive us our sins.

8. We can make amends to one another, but we cannot make amends to God, how then can we hope that God will forgive us?

Ans. Our Saviour has made amends for us.

9. How has He done this?

Ans. By doing perfectly God's holy will.

10. When did Christ finish this work of making amends for us?

Ans. When He suffered on the cross.

11. Who then gives us the right to say that we believe in the forgiveness of sins?

Ans. The Saviour who died for us.

12. But if we are ourselves unforgiving towards others, have we any reason to think that God will forgive us?

Ans. Jesus said, "If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will yourFather forgive your trespasses."

Dost thou remember when thy Lord
Hung on His cruel cross so long,
How in His agony He prayed
For those who did Him wrong?

They nailed His hands, they pierced His feet,
Their angry hearts no pity knew.
"Father forgive them," was His cry,
"They know not what they do."

LESSON XXII.

Easter Day.

"THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN."

We know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. I. John iii: 2.

1. Why do we believe that in the resurrection we shall have bodies as we do here?

Ans. Because when Christ rose from the dead it was with a body.

2. What did he say to His disciples when they doubted whether it were really He?

Ans. "Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself."

3. In which chapter of the Bible are we taught most of what we know about the resurrection of the body?

Ans. In the 15th chapter of St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians.

4. How does our Church show the value which she sets upon this chapter?

Ans. By appointing it to be read in the Burial Service, and also at Evening Prayer on the first Sunday after Easter.

5. In this chapter, what does St. Paul tell us is our best reason for believing that we shall rise from the dead?

Ans. The fact that Christ is risen.

6. To what does he compare the burial of the dead?

Ans. To the sowing of seed in the ground.

7. And what does he call the body which is to be given us in the resurrection?

Ans. The spiritual body.

8. And how does he tell us that the spiritual body we are to have then will differ from the natural body we have now?

Ans. The spiritual body will be incorruptible.

9. What does this mean?

Ans. That it cannot suffer sickness nor pain nor death.

10. To how long a life does the Christian believer look forward in the Resurrection?

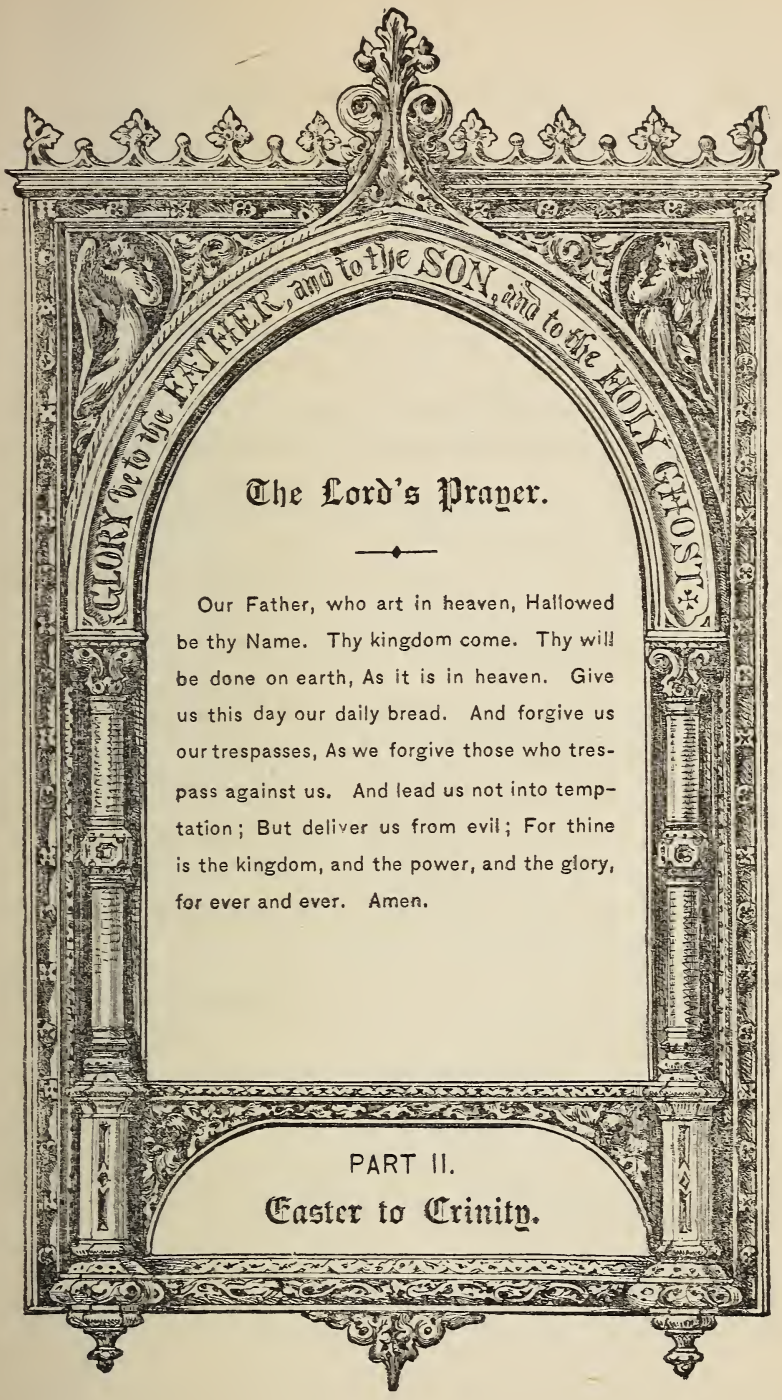
Ans. To an everlasting one.

11. For what purpose is the short life which we live on the earth given us?

Ans. That we may be made ready for "the life everlasting."

12. How only can we be fitted to enjoy that life?

Ans. By receiving and cherishing the Spirit which was in Christ Jesus our Lord.



The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PART II.

Easter to Crinity.

LESSON I.

First Sunday after Easter.

"OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN."

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

For every one that asketh, receiveth; and he that seeketh, findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened. Luke xi: 9 10.

1. Why is the prayer "Our Father" called the Lord's Prayer?

Ans. Because our Lord Jesus gave it to His disciples to use.

2. Who were the disciples?

Ans. The twelve men whom Jesus called to be His companions while He was on earth.

3. But was the prayer intended only for those twelve men?

Ans. No.

4. For whom was it intended?

Ans. For all who should ever learn to believe in God through Jesus Christ.

5. Why is it a good prayer for all sorts of people, young and old?

Ans. Because it is so short and simple.

6. Did Jesus use this prayer Himself?

Ans. We are not told that He did.

7. Why could He not use it?

Ans. He was without sin and therefore could not ask to be forgiven.

8. Are we without sin?

Ans. The Bible says, "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves."

9. In this prayer we call God our "Father;" if He is our Father what may we expect from Him?

Ans. Loving kindness and protection.

10. What else?

Ans. Correction when we do wrong.

11. If God is our Father what do we owe Him as His children?

Ans. First of all, obedience.

12. And what else?

Ans. Love and trust and reverence.

When Jesus trod by thy blue sea,
How blest wert thou, O Galilee!
While there He walked His gracious way,
And taught us how to live and pray.

In sweet and solemn tones His prayer
Still lingers on the waving air,
Where suns may rise, or suns may set
All wants in that one prayer are met.

LESSON II.

Second Sunday after Easter.

"HALLOWED BE THY NAME."

But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. Matt. xii: 36, 37.

1. What is the meaning of the word "hallowed"?

Ans. Kept holy.

2. When is anything kept holy?

Ans. When it is set apart from common uses.

3. Suppose you had a garden of young plants in danger of being trodden upon and spoilt what would you do?

Ans. Fence it.

4. And so, if we wish to keep the name of God from being soiled and hurt, what must we do?

Ans. We must protect it.

5. What do we call the fence that protects the name of God?

Ans. Reverence.

6. Where must reverence begin?

Ans. In the heart.

7. How does reverence show itself?

Ans. In our words.

8. How can we hallow God's name in our conversation?

Ans. By never using it carelessly.

9. What is the most common way of using that holy name carelessly?

Ans. Swearing.

10. Why does swearing hurt the soul?

Ans. Because it is an insult to God.

11. When any one uses insulting language which does he hurt most the person whom he insults or himself?

Ans. Himself.

12. What was David's prayer about his conversation?

Ans. "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, keep the door of my lips."

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only thou art Holy! there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

LESSON III.

Third Sunday after Easter.

"THY KINGDOM COME."

Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. Psalm cxlv: 13.

1. What does "kingdom" mean?

Ans. The government of a king.

2. What is a king?

Ans. A chief ruler who holds his office as long as he lives.

3. What is God called in the Bible?

Ans. "The king of all the earth."

4. If God is "the king of all the earth," what ought all the people of the earth to do?

Ans. To honor and obey Him.

5. But, really, do all the people of the earth honor and obey Him?

Ans. No.

6. What then do we mean by the prayer, "Thy Kingdom come"?

Ans. We mean that we hope the day will come when God shall be honored and obeyed everywhere as He ought to be.

7. What do we call the people who will not obey their rightful ruler?

Ans. Rebellious.

8. Why was our Saviour sent into the world?

Ans. That he might bring back the rebellious people to their King.

9. What is one of the titles given to Jesus because He is the King's son.

Ans. The Prince of Peace.

10. If the world would only accept the peace which Jesus offers what would follow?

Ans. God's Kingdom would come.

11. Have we Americans a king to rule over us?

Ans. We have no earthly king.

12. Ought we to think less of God as our King on this account?

Ans. He is all the more our King because He is our only one.

Why do we say, "Thy kingdom come"?
Because our King is far away,
And, till He come to us again,
We wait, and watch, and pray.

So shall our souls be ready found,
When, from the country far away,
Our King returns in glory crowned,
To hail His sovereign sway.

LESSON IV.

Fourth Sunday after Easter.

"THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN."

Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness. Psalm cxliii : 10.

1. How is God's will done in Heaven?

Ans. Perfectly.

2. How is His will done on earth?

Ans. Imperfectly.

3. When is God's will done?

Ans. When His law is kept.

4. What is keeping His law called?

Ans. Righteousness.

5. What is breaking His law called?

Ans. Sin.

6. How are we taught that there is a difference between right and wrong?

Ans. By God's voice speaking in the heart, which we call conscience.

7. And where are we taught fully what this difference is?

Ans. In the Bible.

8. When is it hard for us to do God's will?

Ans. When our own will goes against His.

9. When we follow our own will instead of His, what do we call it?

Ans. Having our own way.

10. Which is always the better for us, our own way or God's way?

Ans. God's way.

11. Who alone has power to make us love God's will?

Ans. God Himself.

12. When does He do this?

Ans. When we honestly ask Him.

Lord, when we say, "Thy will be done,"
May heart to lip be ever true;
Oh! give us grace to serve thee here,
As gladly as the angels do.

And if thou send us pain or grief,
If loss or anguish e'er befall,
Still teach us, though with quivering lip,
To say "Thy will be done in all."

LESSON V.

Fifth Sunday after Easter.

"GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD."

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. John vi: 35.

1. What would happen to us if God did not give us our daily bread?

Ans. We should starve.

2. But does every one starve who does not use this prayer?

Ans. No, many who never pray have enough to eat.

3. How is this?

Ans. Because God is kind even "to the unthankful and to the evil."

4. What is the purpose of His kindness?

Ans. Sometimes "the goodness of God leadeth men to repentance."

5. Would our earthly parents let us die of hunger even if we did not ask for food?

Ans. No, they would give it to us whether we asked or not.

6. But what should we call the behaviour

of a child who for this reason should refuse to ask at all?

Ans. Unmannerly.

7. Is there any more excuse for being unmannerly towards our Heavenly Father than towards our earthly one?

Ans. No, there is still less.

8. Is the body the only part of us that needs daily bread?

Ans. No, our souls need it too.

9. What do we call the soul's daily bread?

Ans. The grace of God.

10. What does food do for the body?

Ans. It makes it strong to work.

11. And what does grace do for the soul?

Ans. It makes it strong to love and do the right.

12. Why do we say "Give us this *day* our daily bread" instead of "this week" or "this month" or "this year?"

Ans. Because we "know not what shall be on the morrow."

God hears the hungry lions howl,
  He feeds the raven hoarse and grey;
Cares He alone for beast and fowl?
  Are we less dear than they?

Nay, Christian child, kneel down and own
  The Hand that feeds thee, day by day,
Nor careless with thy lip alone,
  For all things needful pray.

LESSON VI.

Sunday after Ascension Day.

"AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US."

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Col. iii: 13.

1. What is a trespass?

Ans. Any wrong thing done.

2. What is the name for trespasses against God?

Ans. Sins.

3. What is the name for trespasses against men?

Ans. Injuries.

4. What is the name for trespasses against the law of the land?

Ans. Crimes.

5. When do we trespass against God?

Ans. Whenever we break one of His commandments.

6. Are there any of us who have not trespassed against God?

Ans. No; "There is no man that sinneth not."

7. What are the first words the minister and the people say together in the Church Service?

Ans. "Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Thy ways like lost sheep."

8. What does our saying this before we say anything else show?

Ans. That God's forgiveness is our greatest need.

9. But can we expect Him to forgive us, if we are unforgiving towards others?

Ans. Jesus said "If ye forgive not men their trespasses neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

10. In which of His parables does Jesus illustrate this?

Ans. In the parable of the unmerciful servant.

11. How are we always tempted to feel towards those who have injured us?

Ans. Angrily and bitterly.

12. But what does Jesus say?

Ans. "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you."

LESSON VII.

Whitsunday.

"AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION; BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL."

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. I. Cor. x: 13.

1. When are we tempted?

Ans. Whenever we are made to feel that it would be pleasant to do wrong.

2. There are two times when temptation is most likely to assail us,—which is the first of the two?

Ans. When we are idle.

3. Which is the second?

Ans. When we are in bad company.

4. Was Christ tempted when He was on earth?

Ans. Yes, "He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."

5. Do our temptations come from God?

Ans. No, "God cannot be tempted, neither tempteth He any man."

6. What do we mean, then, by praying God not to lead us into temptation?

Ans. We mean, Let us not be led into temptation.

7. Who is Satan or the evil one?

Ans. He is the worst of God's creatures.

8. What is he sometimes called?

Ans. The Tempter.

9. Is Satan the only tempter?

Ans. No, every one who entices us to sin is a tempter.

10. What did Jesus say to Simon Peter, when that disciple tried to make Him turn from the path of duty?

Ans. "Get thee behind me Satan."

11. What is our best help in overcoming temptation?

Ans. God's Holy Spirit

12. To whom does God give the Holy Spirit?

Ans. To those who sincerely ask Him.

Myself I cannot save,
Myself I cannot keep;
But strength in Thee I surely have,
Whose eyelids never sleep.
My soul to Thee alone
Now, therefore, I commend:
Thou, Jesus, love me as Thine own,
And love me to the end.

LESSON VIII.

Trinity Sunday.

"FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN."

And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. Rev. v: 13.

1. How far does God's kingdom extend?

Ans. To all the worlds.

2. Why has He the right to be the King of all?

Ans. Because He is the Father of all.

3. What is one of His titles in the Bible?

Ans. King of kings and Lord of lords.

4. How great is God's power?

Ans. There is no end to it.

5. Why do we say "Thine is *the* power," instead of simply "Thine is power"?

Ans. We mean that all power and strength come from Him.

6. If any power, then, should ever be entrusted to us, how ought we to use it?

Ans. As God's gift.

7. How does St. Paul express this thought?

Ans. He says "There is no power but of God."

8. What is glory?

Ans. Brightness.

9. What is the glory of the sun and the moon and the stars?

Ans. Their shining.

10. What shines brighter than sun or moon or stars?

Ans. A good deed.

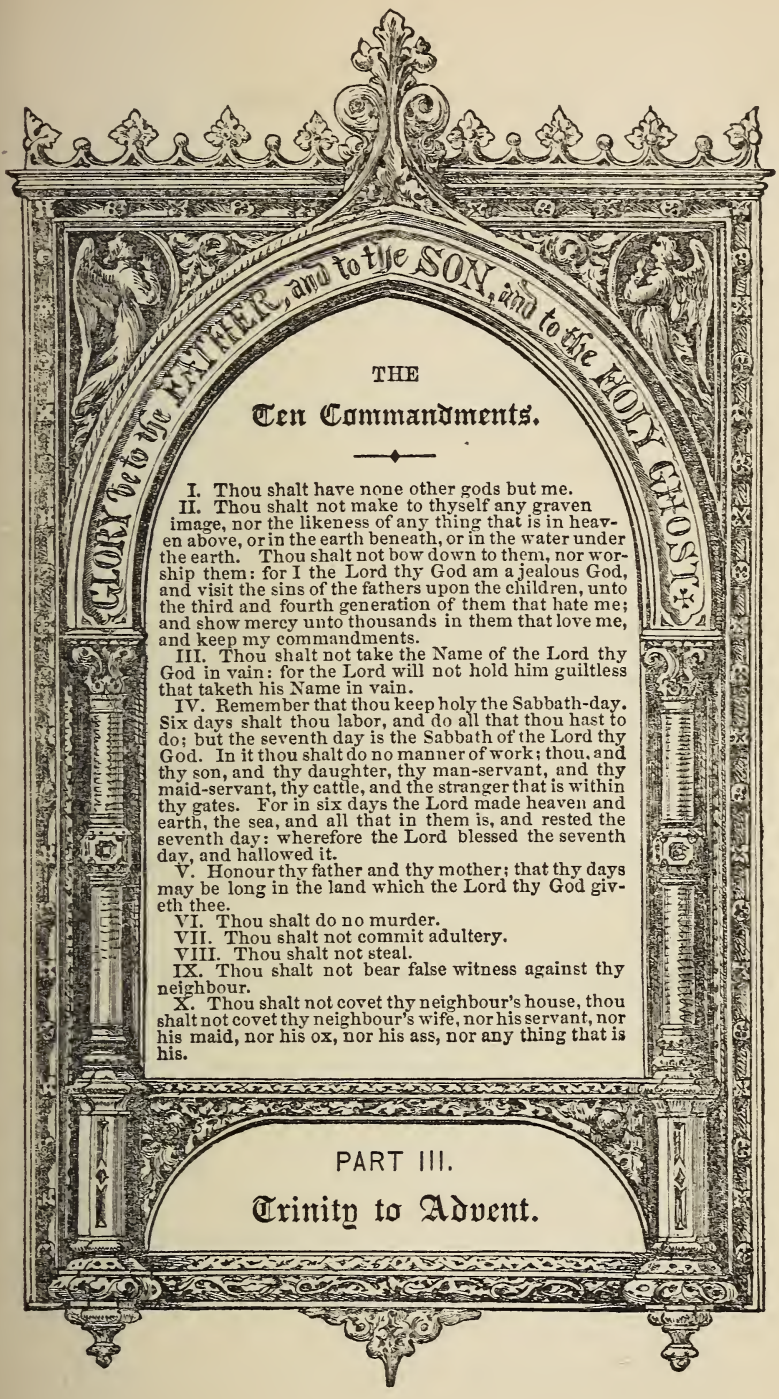
11. And from whom does all goodness come?

Ans. From God.

12. To whom then do the kingdom and the power and the glory all belong?

Ans. To our Father which is in Heaven.

Two little feet to walk the way to Heaven,
Two little hands for loving labor given,
Two little eyes to read God's Holy Word,
Two little lips to praise the Blessed Lord,
One deathless soul, beaming with love and light,
So shall we live alway in Jesus' sight.



THE

Ten Commandments.

I. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

II. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and show mercy unto thousands in them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his Name in vain.

IV. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath-day. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work; thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt do no murder.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is his.

PART III.

Trinity to Advent.

LESSON I.

First Sunday after Trinity.

Right and Wrong.

Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 1 John iii: 7.

1. What is righteousness?

Ans. Doing what is right, because it is right.

2. If you do a right thing because you think people will praise you for it, or because you think you shall prosper in consequence, is that righteousness?

Ans. No, it is selfishness.

3. What alone can make an action righteous?

Ans. A right motive behind it.

4. How do men learn to tell the difference between right and wrong?

Ans. God teaches them.

5. In what two ways does God do this?

Ans. From without and from within.

6. What do we call God's voice speaking to us from within?

Ans. Conscience.

7. What do we call God's voice speaking to us from without?

Ans. Prophecy.

8. By whom is prophecy brought to us?

Ans. By prophets.

9. And what is a prophet?

Ans. One who speaks for God.

10. Where do we find the words of the men who have best spoken for God?

Ans. In the Bible.

11. What does the Bible do for us which conscience does not?

Ans. It tells us what God's law is.

12. What does conscience do for us which the Bible does not?

Ans. It blames us when we break God's law.

Still the wrong way will seem pleasant,
  Still the right way will seem hard;
All our life we shall be tempted,
  We must ever be on guard.
We are soldiers doing battle,
  Day by day, and hour by hour,
Each one with his own temptation,
  Striving in the Spirit's power

LESSON II.

Second Sunday after Trinity.

The Law.

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. Psalm xix: 8.

1. What is a law-giver?

Ans. One who makes rules or laws for people to obey.

2. Who is the chief law-giver of all?

Ans. God the Father Almighty.

3. What does David say of this Law-giver's law?

Ans. "The law of the Lord is perfect."

4. Are the laws that men make perfect?

Ans. Only in so far as they are like God's law.

5. What is the name for breaking God's law?

Ans. Sin.

6. What is the name for breaking man's law?

Ans. Crime.

7. What sorts of sins does man's law punish as crimes?

Ans. Those by which we injure one another.

8. What sorts of sins does God's law punish?

Ans. All sorts.

9. Who only can forgive us our sins?

Ans. God.

10. For whose sake does He forgive us?

Ans. For Jesus' sake.

11. How did Jesus win the forgiveness of our sins?

Ans. By His great love for us.

12. What did this love lead Him to do?

Ans. To die for us upon the cross.

I sin whenever I pursue
What God commands me not to do;
I sin too, if I ever shun
What He hath told me must be done.

If I sincerely now repent,
And trust in Him whom Heaven hath sent,
He will remove the threatening rod.
And bear me to the arms of God.

LESSON III.

Third Sunday after Trinity.

Moses.

The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel. Ps. ciii : 6, 7.

1. Who was the greatest of the law-givers before Jesus came into the world ?

Ans. Moses.

2. How did Moses become a law-giver ?

Ans. God called him to be one.

3. Where was Moses born ?

Ans. In Egypt.

4. But was he an Egyptian ?

Ans. No; he was an Israelite.

5. How then did he happen to be born in Egypt ?

Ans. The Israelites were slaves in Egypt at that time.

6. By whom was Moses brought up ?

Ans. By the daughter of Pharaoh the king of Egypt.

7. What were the names of Moses' own parents?

Ans. Amram and Jochebed.

8. Where did Pharaoh's daughter find Moses?

Ans. In an ark of bulrushes by the riverside.

9. Who had placed him there?

Ans. His mother.

10. Why had she done this?

Ans. To save his life.

11. Why was his life in danger.

Ans. Because Pharaoh had commanded that all the male children of the Hebrews, when born, should be put to death.

12. What did Moses gain from his adoption by Pharaoh's daughter?

Ans. He was taught all the learning of the Egyptians.

Saviour pure and holy,
Lover of the lowly,
Sign us with Thy sign,
Take our hands in Thine,
Take our hands and come,
Lead Thy children home!

LESSON IV.

Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

Sinai.

And the Lord came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the Lord called Moses up to the top of the mount, and Moses went up. Exod. xix: 20.

1. When Moses grew to be a man what happened?

Ans. "He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter."

2. Why?

Ans. Because he loved his own people, and wanted to live with them.

3. What did God command Moses to do?

Ans. To lead the Israelites from Egypt to the promised land.

4. Was Pharaoh willing to let the Israelites go?

Ans. Not until God had punished him and his land.

5. What are the punishments God sent to Pharaoh called?

Ans. The plagues of Egypt.

6. What happened to Pharaoh and his army while they were pursuing the children of Israel?

Ans. They were overthrown in the Red Sea and drowned.

7. To what mountain did Moses lead the people after they had escaped from Egypt?

Ans. Mount Sinai.

8. What took place at Mount Sinai?

Ans. God gave Moses a law for His people.

9. On what was the law written?

Ans. On two tables of stone.

10. Into how many parts was the law divided?

Ans. Ten.

11. What are these parts called?

Ans. The Commandments.

12. What used to be another name for the Ten Commandments?

Ans. The Ten Words of God.

The foe behind, the deep before,
Our hosts have dared and passed the sea
And Pharaoh's warriors strew the shore,
And Israel's ransomed tribes are free.

LESSON V.

Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

The letter and the spirit.

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. John i : 17.

1. What do we mean by the spirit of a law?

Ans. The purpose of it.

2. What do we mean by the letter of a law?

Ans. The wording of it.

3. If a child, for instance, who had been told by his father not to venture upon the water in a boat, were to go out on a raft of boards, which would that be keeping, the letter or the spirit of the commandment?

Ans. The letter.

4. Which is the more important the letter or the spirit?

Ans. The spirit.

5. When Jesus came into the world what did He do for the law of Moses?

Ans. He brought out the spirit of it.

6. How many commandments did Jesus Himself set forth?

Ans. Two.

7. What were they.

Ans. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind," and "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

8. Did He mean these two commandments to be added to the ten of Moses so as to make twelve?

Ans. No.

9. What then did He mean?

Ans. He meant that these two commandments contained the spirit of the ten.

10. How, then, ought Christians to receive and obey the Ten Commandments?

Ans. In the light of the teaching of Christ.

11. When we say in church, after each commandment, "Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law," what do we mean?

Ans. We ask God to help us keep the spirit of each.

12. When Jesus says that on His two commandments "hang all the Law and the prophets," what does He mean?

Ans. That love to God and love to man were the lesson which the Law and the prophets had been meant to teach.

LESSON VI.

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

The First Commandment as given by Moses.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. Deut. viii : 19.

1. Why was this commandment to worship one only God made the first of the Ten?

Ans. Because all the others depend upon it.

2. Why is it that we are bound to keep the commandments at all?

Ans. Because they are the will of God.

3. But if there were many Gods, each one might have a will of his own,— might he not?

Ans. Yes.

4. So then, if we were obliged to choose between doing the will of one God and doing the will of another God, what would happen?

Ans. We should be puzzled.

5. How should we probably decide?

Ans. We should be likely to do the will of the God we supposed to be the stronger.

6. And if one person were doing the will of one God, and another the will of another God, what would happen?

Ans. All would be confusion.

7. Suppose there were two Gods, one good and one bad, what would happen?

Ans. The good God would make good commandments, and the bad God bad ones.

8. But if there is one only God, and He is holy, what will His commandments be?

Ans. Holy commandments.

9. In the old days, before Christ came, how many nations worshipped but one God?

Ans. Only one.

10. Which was that?

Ans. The Hebrews or Israelites.

11. What were they called on this account?

Ans. The People of God.

12. What was the name they gave their one God?

Ans. Jehovah.

There is one God, but One alone,
He made all things in earth and heaven;
To Him all love and praise are due,
All worship must be given.

LESSON VII.

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity.

The First Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them. John xvii: 26.

1. What new name of God did Christ bring to us?

Ans. Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2. When did He declare this name?

Ans. When His work on earth was finished.

3. To whom did He declare it?

Ans. To His apostles.

4. What did He say to them?

Ans. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

5. Is the name "Father, Son and Holy Ghost" the name of three Gods?

Ans. No, it is the name of the One God.

6. What is the value of this name of God?

Ans. It helps us to know God more fully.

7. What else did Jesus teach about the first commandment?

Ans. He taught the true motive for keeping it.

8. What might be a motive for keeping it?

Ans. Fear of being punished if we did not.

9. What did Jesus make the true motive for keeping it?

Ans. Love.

10. What sort of love?

Ans. Filial Love.

11. What is filial love?

Ans. The love of a child for its parents.

12. What did Jesus say when some one asked Him, "Which is the first commandment of all?"

Ans. "The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength."

The little birds sing happy songs,
  The flowers grow brightly everywhere,
They do not know the great Lord God
  Who made them all so fair.

But we are not like senseless flowers,
  We are not like the little birds,
For we can love Him with our hearts
  And praise Him with our words.

LESSON VIII.

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

And the idols he shall utterly abolish. Isa. ii: 18.

1. What is the name of the sin which this commandment forbids?

Ans. Idolatry.

2. What is an idol?

Ans. An image worshipped as God.

3. Why is idolatry bad?

Ans. Because it gives the worshippers false notions about God.

4. Why were the Israelites in great danger of falling into this sin?

Ans. Because the nations around them were idolatrous.

5. Did they ever fall into it?

Ans. Again and again.

6. What idol did they make while Moses was receiving the Law on Mount Sinai?

Ans. A golden calf.

7. Who was their leader in this sin?

Ans. Aaron the high priest, the brother of Moses.

8. When Moses came down from the Mount, and found the people worshipping the golden calf, what did he do?

Ans. In his anger he broke the two tables of stone.

9. What are the names of some of the idols mentioned in the Old Testament?

Ans. Baal, Moloch, Dagon and Rimmon.

10. Why are not we idolaters?

Ans. Because we have been taught better.

11. Are there idolaters in the world now?

Ans. Yes, whole countries full of them.

12. When will these people turn from their idols to seek the living and true God?

Ans. Not until we do our duty in trying to teach them.

There are strange countries far away
Where God's name is unknown,
Where children live who say their prayers,
To Gods of wood and stone.

But Christian children go to church,
They kneel at home in prayer;
And God, Who is a Spirit, hears
And answers everywhere.

LESSON IX.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

The Second Commandment as Illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Little children, keep yourselves from idols. I. John v : 21.

1. What is the teaching of Christ about idolatry?

Ans. That anything which we love better than God is our idol.

2. What is one of the commonest forms of idolatry?

Ans. The worship of money.

3. How do men sometimes show that they are worshippers of money?

Ans. By doing things they ought not to do in order to get it.

4. How else?

Ans. By caring most for the people who are rich, and least for the people who are poor.

5. What does Jesus say upon this subject?

Ans. "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon."

6. What does this mean?

Ans. That we cannot love God best and riches best at the same time.

7. What is the only image of God we can worship without sin?

Ans. His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

8. What does St. Paul call Christ?

Ans. "The image of the invisible God."

9. And in what words had Jesus said the same thing of Himself?

Ans. "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father."

10. Why is it not wrong to worship this likeness of God, when to worship other likenesses of Him is a sin?

Ans. Because this is a true likeness.

11. What does the spirit of the second commandment forbid?

Ans. The worship of any image that is a false likeness of God.

12. Why must images made with hands always be false likenesses of God?

Ans. Because they are only *things*, while God is a person, not a thing.

Frail children of dust,
And feeble as frail
In Thee do we trust,
Nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies, how tender,
How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.

LESSON X.

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord. Lev. xix: 12.

1. What is meant by taking God's name in vain?

Ans. Using it carelessly or wickedly.

2. What is the worst sin of this kind called?

Ans. Blasphemy.

3. Who is a blasphemer?

Ans. One who curses God, or speaks angrily or bitterly against Him.

4. When are men tempted to blasphemy?

Ans. When things go hard with them.

5. Why ought we never to blame God for the misfortunes that happen to us?

Ans. Because He knows best what is good for us.

6. Under the law of Moses what was the punishment of the blasphemer?

Ans. He was put to death.

7. What is the sin of profaneness?

Ans. Any trifling use of sacred names.

8. Why is this wrong?

Ans. Because the name stands for the person.

9. If we fall into the habit of slighting God's name, what else shall we be likely to do?

Ans. Lose reverence for God Himself.

10. What does the Commandment say of every one who takes God's name in vain, whether blasphemously or profanely?

Ans. God will not hold him guiltless.

11. What does this mean?

Ans. That He *will* hold him guilty.

12 And if God hold him guilty what must follow?

Ans. Punishment.

Hush! little Christian child,
Speak not that Holy Name,
Not with a laughing lip,
Not in thy playful game;
For the great God of all
Heareth each word we say,
He will remember it
In the great Judgment Day.

LESSON XI.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

The Third Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

*But I say unto you, Swear not at all; * * * But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.* Matt. v: 34. 37.

1. When people use oaths very freely in conversation, what is commonly their purpose?

Ans. To add strength to what they say.

2. When a man is telling the truth does his swearing an oath really add any strength to what he says?

Ans. Not at all.

3. If he is not telling the truth does his swearing make the falsehood any less a falsehood?

Ans. Certainly not.

4. What then does a man gain by using profane language?

Ans. Nothing.

5. What does he lose?

Ans. Holiness.

6. What habit does Christ commend to us instead of the habit of swearing?

Ans. The habit of saying just what we mean.

7. What virtue, then, is covered by this Commandment, as Christ teaches it?

Ans. Truthfulness.

8. What names do we always find it most natural to treat with respect?

Ans. The names of those we love.

9. Who then are least likely to take God's name in vain?

Ans. Those who have the love of God in their hearts.

10. What other kind of words besides blasphemous and profane words, does Christ disapprove?

Ans. Idle words.

11. What does He mean by idle words?

Ans. Words that do nobody any good.

12. What does He say upon this point?

Ans. "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."

Honor God's Holy Name,
Speak it with thought and care,
Sing to it holy hymns,
Breathe it in earnest prayer;
But not with sudden cry,
In thy light joy or pain,
"God will hold guilty all
Who take His Name in vain."

LESSON XII.

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

So the people rested on the seventh day. Exod. xvi : 30.

1. Where do we find evidence that the law of the Sabbath had been known before the Two Tables were given to Moses on Mount Sinai?

Ans. In the first book of the Bible.

2. What is the name of that book?

Ans. Genesis.

3. What is said in the second chapter of the book of Genesis about the seventh day?

Ans. "God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because that in it he had rested from all His work."

4. Where else do we find evidence that the Sabbath was known before the giving of the Ten Commandments?

Ans. In the story of the manna.

5. What was the manna?

Ans. The food miraculously given the children of Israel in the wilderness.

6. How often were the people to gather the manna?

Ans. Day by day.

7. What were they to do on the sixth day?

Ans. They were to gather enough to last them over the Sabbath.

8. If the Sabbath was already known before Moses' time, why was there any need of putting the law of the Sabbath among the Ten Commandments?

Ans. This Commandment, like the others, only set forth a duty which was already known but had been partly forgotten.

9. What was the one thing strictly forbidden in the Fourth Commandment?

Ans. Labor.

10. What was the one thing commanded?

Ans. Rest.

11. Under the law of Moses, what was the punishment for Sabbath-breaking?

Ans. Death.

12. Why was so severe a penalty needed?

Ans. Because the temptation to forget this law was very strong.

Put the spade and wheel away;
Do no weary work to-day;
Let the way-worn horse go free,
And the field uncultured be;
Leave the flail beside the corn,
All must rest on Sunday morn.

LESSON XIII.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Fourth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath: therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath. Mark ii: 27, 28.

1. What was one of the accusations the enemies of Christ brought against Him?

Ans. That He was a Sabbath-breaker.

2. Why did they make such a charge?

Ans. Because He did not keep the Fourth Commandment in their way.

3. What did He do on the Sabbath that offended them?

Ans. He did works of mercy.

4. What did Christ mean when He said that the Sabbath was made for man?

Ans. He meant that God made the law of the Sabbath in order to do men good.

5. What had the Jews of Christ's time done for the Sabbath?

Ans. They had turned it from a blessing into a curse.

6. What day do Christians keep holy instead of the Sabbath?

Ans. The first day of the week.

7. What is the Christian name for this day?

Ans. The Lord's Day.

8. Why do we call it "The Lord's Day"?

Ans. Because it is the day on which Christ rose from the dead.

9. In holding the first day of the week sacred instead of the seventh, which do we honor, the letter or the spirit of the Commandment?

Ans. The spirit.

10. What is the spirit in which we ought to enjoy the Lord's Day?

Ans. A spirit of thankfulness.

11. What duty ought we especially to remember on that day?

Ans. The duty of worship.

12. What sorts of pleasures may we allow ourselves on the Lord's Day?

Ans. Such as neither interfere with serious thoughts, nor rob others of their day of rest.

Hark! I hear the sweet Church bells,
And their quiet music tells
How to keep Christ's holy day
In the happiest, fittest way;
How His children here may meet,
All in saintly service sweet,
And in presence of their Lord,
Sing His praise, and hear His word.

LESSON XIV.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Fifth Commandment as given by Moses.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. Prov. i: 8, 9.

1. What is a child's first duty to his parents?

Ans. Obedience.

2. What makes obedience easy?

Ans. Love.

3. What else besides obedience do children owe their parents?

Ans. Reverence.

4. How long does the duty of obedience last?

Ans. Till children are grown up.

5. How long does the duty of reverence last?

Ans. As long as life lasts.

6. What is the duty of children towards parents who have grown old and feeble?

Ans To care tenderly for them.

7. What is meant by the words "the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."?

Ans. Canaan, or the promised land.

8. Why did the Israelites call Canaan the "promised land"?

Ans. Because it had been promised to them as the children of Abraham.

9. Why were they particularly interested in the promised land at the time this Commandment was given?

Ans. Because they were journeying towards it, and expected soon to enter it.

10. Was the promise of long life in the land of Canaan meant for each separate Israelite who should keep this Commandment or for the people as a whole?

Ans. For the people as a whole.

11. What makes the life of any nation long in the land which God gives it to possess?

Ans. The habit of obedience to law.

12. Where is the habit of obedience to law best and earliest learned?

Ans. In a good home.

O holy Lord, content to live
In a poor home a lowly child,
And in subjection meek to give
Obedience to thy mother mild;

Lead every child that bears Thy Name
To walk in Thy pure, upright way,
To dread the touch of sin and shame,
And humbly, like Thyself, obey.

LESSON XV.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Fifth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. I. Peter ii: 17.

1. If we early learn to reverence our parents, what will be likely to follow?

Ans. We shall reverence others too.

2. What is the duty of a Christian towards all with whom he has intercourse?

Ans. To treat them with respect.

3. Who are the people who are most likely to treat others with respect?

Ans. Those who have learned to be respectful at home.

4. Who are the only persons from whom we have any right to withhold respect?

Ans. Those who have proved themselves unworthy of it.

5. Until a person has plainly shown that he is unworthy of respect, what is our duty towards him?

Ans. To treat him respectfully.

6. What treatment therefore do we always owe to strangers about whom we know nothing?

Ans. Respectful treatment.

7. What is a "respectable" person?

Ans. Any person who deserves respect.

8. What is it that can give to any one a claim to respect, and so make him "respectable"?

Ans. Purity of character.

9. What is this Fifth Commandment called by St. Paul.

Ans. "The first commandment with promise."

10. What is the promise attached to it?

Ans. Long life.

11. Where else than here on earth may this promise be fulfilled?

Ans. In the world to come.

12. What is the name of the land which the Lord our God giveth to those who are His obedient children?

Ans. The heavenly land.

Be to others kind and true,
As you'd have others be to you;
And neither say nor do to men
Whate'er you would not take again.

LESSON XVI.

Sixteenth Sunday After Trinity

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

*And surely your blood of your lives will I require; * * * at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.* Gen. ix: 5.

1. What is the name for the act of taking away human life?

Ans. Homicide.

2. When one man kills another without at all meaning to do so, what sort of homicide is it?

Ans. Accidental homicide.

3. When one man kills another in self-defence, or at the command of the State as an executioner, what sort of homicide is it?

Ans. Justifiable homicide.

4. When one man kills another out of hatred or covetousness, or any bad passion, what sort of homicide is it?

Ans. Unjustifiable homicide.

5. What, then, are the three sorts of homicide or man-slaying?

Ans. Accidental, justifiable, unjustifiable.

6. Which of these three sorts of homicide is forbidden in the Sixth Commandment?

Ans. The last.

7. Under the law of Moses, who was

charged with the duty of seeing that the murderer was put to death as soon as possible?

Ans. An officer called "the avenger of blood."

8. What were the cities called to which those who had committed any sort of homicide could fly, and be safe from "the avenger of blood?"

Ans. Cities of refuge.

9. How many of these cities of refuge were there?

Ans. Six.

10. How many witnesses were necessary to prove the charge of murder against any man when on his trial?

Ans. Two.

11. For what were these precautions about the cities of refuge and the number of the witnesses intended?

Ans. To protect suspected persons, who might be innocent, from too hasty punishment.

12. What is one of the best proofs that a city or country is well governed?

Ans. The security of human life within its borders.

Give not back the hasty blow,
Though 'tis given wrongly;
Let the foolish scoffer go,
Though he tempt thee strongly.

LESSON XVII.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Sixth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. 1 John, iii : 15.

1. From what source does Christ tell us that murders come?

Ans. "Out of the heart."

2. What does He mean by this?

Ans. He means that bad feelings prompt bad acts.

3. Which are the three bad feelings that oftener than any others tempt men to commit murder?

Ans. Anger, jealousy and covetousness.

4. If we wish to be safe against the temptation to murder, what ought we to do?

Ans. We ought to drive away these feelings whenever they come near us.

5. In what words does Solomon commend this duty to us?

Ans. "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life."

6. When will wars and fightings cease on the earth?

Ans. When men have learned to love one another.

7. What stands in the way of men's loving one another now?

Ans. Their selfishness.

8. What does true love always produce?

Ans. Unselfishness

9. If, therefore, men can be persuaded truly to love one another, what will follow?

Ans. They will never try to kill one another.

10. So far in the history of the world what means of persuading men to brotherly love has proved more successful than any other?

Ans. The Gospel of Christ.

11. What is the Gospel of Christ?

Ans. The message, "God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotton Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

12. How, then, may those who desire to see peace on earth best labor to bring about their object?

Ans. By helping to spread the knowledge of the Gospel of Christ.

LESSON XVIII.

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Seventh Commdandment as given by Moses.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

And Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. Gen. xxiv: 67.

1. Of what law is adultery the transgression?

Ans. The law of marriage.

2. What is the law of marriage?

Ans. That the husband shall be true to the wife, and the wife to the husband.

3. When was the law of marriage ordained?

Ans. In the beginning.

4. In what words is this law laid down in the first book of the Bible?

Ans. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh."

5. What is marriage called by the Church?

Ans. A "holy estate."

6. What is meant by this expression?

Ans. A state of life which God approves.

7. Why is it necessary for the Church to insist that marriage is a "holy estate?"

Ans. Because it has sometimes been taught

that those who do not marry are holier than those who do.

8. What does the minister say, in the marriage service, of those who have been joined together in this holy estate?

Ans. "Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

9 What is the putting asunder of those who have been joined together in holy matrimony called?

Ans. Divorce.

10. When divorces are frequent, is it a sign of a good or of a bad state of society?

Ans. Of a bad state.

11. If husbands and wives always kept their marriage vows, what would be the result?

Ans. Divorces would never happen.

12. In which families are divorces most likely to occur?

Ans. Those in which God is not honored.

I love the little snowdrop flower,
The first in all the year,
Without a stain upon its leaf,
So snowy white and clear.

I sometimes think the Church's saints
Are flowers so fair and bright,
And that her little children are
Her snowdrops sweet and white.

LESSON XIX.

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.

The Seventh Commandment as Illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Matt. v: 8.

1. Which grace of character is the Seventh Commandment intended to protect?

Ans. Purity.

2. What is purity?

Ans. Cleanness of heart.

3. In what three ways ought Christians to be pure?

Ans. In thought, in word, and in deed.

4. What are the emblems of purity in Holy Scripture?

Ans. The lamb, the dove, the fountain and the lily.

5. What is one chief source of the temptations to impurity?

Ans. Bad company.

6. What is another?

Ans. Bad reading, bad books and papers.

7. What is our best protection against such temptations?

Ans. The grace of God.

8. How are we to obtain the grace of God?

Ans. By asking God for it.

9. What was the language of David's prayer?

Ans. "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

10. How are our bodies cleansed from spot and stain?

Ans. By the washing of water.

11. How only can our souls be cleansed?

Ans. By the washing of God's forgiveness.

12. When was this forgiveness pledged us?

Ans. When Christ shed his blood for us upon the cross.

Sweet Holy Spirit come,
Dwell with a child;
Make of my heart a home
All undefiled.

Come Holy Dove and sing
Sweet words to me;
Let thy white nestling wing
My covering be.

LESSON XX.

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

The Eighth Commandment as given by Moses.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another. Lev. xix: 11.

1. What is stealing?

Ans. Taking what does not belong to us.

2. When people steal with great boldness, what is their crime called?

Ans. Robbery.

3. When the stealing is done with great secrecy, what do we call it?

Ans. Thieving.

4. When the stealing is done little by little, and with the hope that the loss will not be noticed because it is so small, what is the offence called?

Ans. Pilfering.

5. What is the Commandment that forbids equally all these sorts of wrong-doing?

Ans. "Thou shalt not steal."

6. What is one very common way in which thieves try to escape the disgrace which ought to follow their crime?

Ans. Inventing fine names for the crime.

7. What are some of these fine names for stealing?

Ans. "Embezzlement" and "Irregularity."

8. Can a fine name really cover over a bad deed?

Ans. No: it only makes things worse.

9. Why?

Ans. Because the sin of lying is added to the first sin.

10. To which kind of stealing are children most apt to be tempted?

Ans. Pilfering.

11. Is it any less a sin for a child to steal from his parents than to steal from others?

Ans. No; the guilt is the same.

12. What is a good saying to keep in mind as a protection against the temptation to break this Commandment?

Ans. "Thou God seest me."

Pilfer not the smallest thing,
  Touch it not, howe'er thou need it,
Though the owner have enough,
  Though he know it not nor heed it.

Taste not the forbidden fruit,
  Though resistance be a trial:
Grasping hand and roving eye,
  Early teach them self-denial.

LESSON XXI.

The Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.

The Eighth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor. Rom. xiii: 7.

1. How may we go against the spirit of this Eighth Commandment, even though we do not actually steal another's property?

Ans. By witholding what is due.

2. What is the meaning of the word "duty"?

Ans. That which is due.

3. What two sorts of duty are there?

Ans. Our duty towards God, and our duty towards our neighbor.

4. Who is our neighbor?

Ans. Any fellow creature whom it is in our power to serve.

5. What is due to those who are in authority over us?

Ans. Obedience.

6. What is due to those who are in need?

Ans. Relief.

7. What is due to those who are in sorrow?

Ans. Sympathy

8. What do we call our "rights"?

Ans. Those things which are due us from other people.

9. When we say that we "have a right" to obedience, or relief, or sympathy, what do we mean?

Ans. We mean that, for some reason, obedience or relief or sympathy is due us.

10. Which are people usually most eager about, their rights or their duties?

Ans. Their rights.

11. Which *ought* they to be most eager about?

Ans. Their duties.

12. If all people were careful about their duties what would become of their rights?

Ans. They would always be respected.

Upright heart and honest name
To the poorest are a treasure,
Better than ill-gotten wealth,
Better far than pomp and pleasure.

Poor and needy though thou art,
Gladly take what God has given,
With clean hand and humble heart
Passing through the world to Heaven.

LESSON XXII.

The Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.

THE NINTH COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Lying lips are abomination to the Lord: but they that deal truly are his delight. Prov. xii: 22.

1. In repeating this Commandment, upon which word of it ought we to put the emphasis?

Ans. The word "false."

2. Why?

Ans. Because it is only *false* witness that is forbidden.

3. Which is the only kind of witness it can ever be our duty to bear against our neighbor?

Ans. True witness.

4. But is it always our duty to bear even true witness against him?

Ans. No.

5. When only are we bound to bear witness of any sort against our neighbor?

Ans. When injustice would be done if we were silent.

6. Under the law of Moses, what was the punishment of the false witness?

Ans. "Ye shall do unto him as he had thought to have done unto his brother."

7. What do we call the man who has a habit of bearing false witness against others?

Ans. Slanderer.

8. What is the name for one who has the habit of saying bitter things against others, but is careful not to say them in their presence?

Ans. Backbiter.

9. What is one of the titles of Satan or the Evil One?

Ans. "The accuser of the brethren."

10. What is another of his titles?

Ans. The Father of lies.

11. If he be the Father of lies, what sort of an accuser of the brethren must he be?

Ans. A false accuser.

12. What is one of the titles of the Holy Ghost?

Ans. He is the Spirit of Truth.

The little lips that every day
  Say prayers to God at morn and eve,
They were not made for wicked words,
  That injure or deceive.

The hearts where God's great Spirit dwells,
  To cleanse, and teach, and sanctify,
Should never think a wicked thought,
  Should never frame a lie.

LESSON XXIII.

The Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.

The Ninth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Eph. iv: 25.

1. What does the spirit of this Commandment require of us?

Ans. Always to tell the truth.

2. In the verse at the head of this lesson, what reason does St. Paul give us for telling the truth?

Ans. He says, "for we are members one of another."

3. What does this mean?

Ans. It means that the family of God to which Christians belong is like the human body.

4. What are the "members" of the body?

Ans. Its various parts.

5. Who is the Head of the body of which Christians are members?

Ans. Christ.

6. If we are members one of another, under the headship of Christ, what follows?

Ans. We have all of us one and the same interest.

7. What do you mean by this answer?

Ans. That what is best for each is best for all, and what is best for all is best for each.

8. How are we taught this in St. Paul's parable of the body.

Ans. "The eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you."

9. Why then is our being "members one of another" a reason for our telling the truth?

Ans. Because we have all of us a common interest in the truth.

10. So then, when one member of God's family is injured by a lie, what happens?

Ans. A wrong is done to all the members.

11. What is the natural emblem of truth?

Ans. Day-light.

12. What is the natural emblem of falsehood?

Ans. Darkness.

You cannot see the holy God,
Nor that bad spirit tempting you·
But you can watch and never speak
A word that is not true.

LESSON XXIV.

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.

THE TENTH COMMANDMENT AS GIVEN BY MOSES.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness. Ps. cxix: 36.

1. What does it mean to "covet"?

Ans. To desire very eagerly.

2. What sort of coveting is forbidden in this Commandment?

Ans. Coveting that which is our neighbor's.

3. To which sins is covetousness very apt to lead people?

Ans. To greediness and stinginess.

4. Under the law of Moses, what was forbidden to the Israelites during their time of harvest?

Ans. To reap the corners of their fields.

5. What else was forbidden them of the same sort?

Ans. To gather the gleanings of the harvest.

6. For whom were the corners of the fields and the gleanings kept?

Ans. For the poor.

7. What was still another rule of this same sort?

Ans. "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the grain."

8. Why were such rules as these needed?

Ans. To keep the people from becoming mean and grasping.

9. What is the difference between envy and covetousness?

Ans. Envy is a feeling towards a person, covetousness is a feeling about the things that belong to the person.

10. How do the two feelings go together?

Ans. We envy our neighbor when we covet what he owns.

11. Are envy and covetousness, then, two separate sins?

Ans. No they are one and the same sin looked at in different ways.

12. Which trait of character is the opposite of covetousness?

Ans. Generosity.

Spirit of purity and grace,
Our weakness, pitying, see;
O make our hearts thy dwelling-place,
And meet for Thee.

LESSON XXV.

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity.

The Tenth Commandment as illuminated by Christ.

[Let the scholars repeat the Commandment.]

But covet earnestly the best gifts. I Cor. xii. 31.

1. What reason does Christ give us for not being covetous?

Ans. "Take heed and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

2. What does He teach us in these words?

Ans. That the mere owning of *things* cannot make us happy.

3. What two sorts of riches are there?

Ans. The true riches and the false.

4. Which are the true riches?

Ans. Those that cannot be taken away from us.

5. Which are the false riches?

Ans. Those which we must leave behind us when we die.

6. What does St. Paul tell us we may and ought to covet earnestly?

Ans. "The best gifts."

7. What does he mean by "the best gifts"?

Ans. The gifts of God.

8. What is another name for these gifts of God?

Ans. "The fruit of the Spirit."

9. What is still another name for them?

Ans. Graces of character.

10. In what order does St. Paul place them?

Ans. Love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance.

11. If we covet the possession of this sort of riches are we breaking the Commandment?

Ans. Certainly not.

12. Why not?

Ans. Because the fruit of the Spirit belongs to God, and we are not coveting that which is our neighbor's when we earnestly desire the gift of God.

Teach me, dear Saviour, some return
Of lowly service for Thy love,
Such as a thankful child may learn,
Such as Thy Spirit shall approve.

Young hearts, I hear them say, are claimed
For God's own altar by thy Word;
May I lay there my own, unblamed,
And wilt thou lift it heavenward, Lord?

BX
5875

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 021 898 761 8

WE INVITE THE ATTENTION OF

Clergymen, Superintendents and Teachers

TO OUR

Library and Instruction Books

FOR THE

Sunday Schools of the Episcopal Church.

Making this a special department in our business, we have been careful in the selection of our publications, it being our aim to issue books healthy and Churchly in their tone, and at the same time fresh and entertaining to children.

Our list embraces all the Publications of

THE CHURCH BOOK SOCIETY,

As well as our own, and contains over

700 VOLUMES OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Besides these we have the latest and best Books of other Publishers. English and American, all of which we sell at the lowest rates.

All, about to replenish their Libraries, or in want of anything for Sunday School use, are invited to call and examine our stock, or to correspond with us.

Catalogues sent free on application.

E. P. DUTTON & CO.,

Church Publishers and Agents for the Church Book Society,

713 Broadway, New York.